

### Abstract

Please add the following Abstract at the end of the Specification and Claim:

The invention relates to the use of nanoscalar water-soluble  $\beta$ -(1,3) glucans, which are essentially free from  $\beta$ -(1,6) links and have particle diameters ranging from 10 to 300 nm for producing cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations. When applied topically, the especially fine dispersion of the particles, compared to prior art glucans, facilitates their rapid penetration of both the stratum corneum of the skin and the keratin fibers of the hair.